

way to school each student brought with them a piece of wood for the woodstoves on the first and second floors of Deady Hall. Lanterns were the only light source within the building. Outside of Deady there was a water well and individual outhouses existed for males and females.

Student activities ranged from games to societies. Baseball was a favorite game due to its simplicity. Girls were not expected to be too active, but they too were included in the games. The only person who objected to game playing was President John Wesley Johnson, who hated the activity.

Literary societies at the University were created for the purpose of literature and debate. Eautaxin was named for the male society and Laurean for the females.

In order for students to leave the campus or the city, permission had to be granted from the University president. Misbehavior was never tolerated at the University. If a student displayed misconduct they were required to appear before the faculty to plead their case. If the student was found at fault the worst that would happen was expulsion. The president would write a letter to the parents of the student requesting them to "come fetch their child." If the misconduct was only moderate the student was required to publically apologize in front of the school at a weekly assembly. The public apologies ended at the turn of the century, although the weekly assemblies lasted until the 1920s.

The origin of the school colors occurred in the 1890s. The first color introduced was yellow, which represented the state flower, the Oregon Grape. Later the color green was initiated to symbolize the leaf of the plant.

A tradition which did exist for the first graduating class was the tree planting ceremony. The tree has long since been cut down to make way for the

Robinson Theater addition on Villard Hall. The oldest standing tree is from the class of 1879 found along the drive across from Deady Hall.

The fate of the first class of graduates at the University was mixed. Whitaker, Washburn, and Wallace died in the first fifteen years following graduation, with Washburn and Wallace dying of cholera and Whitaker dying of a ruptured appendix.

After graduation, Robert Bean went on to be a lawyer, an Oregon Supreme Court judge as well as president of the University's Board of Regents. Bean also married a sister of Ellen Condon's. Today, fifth generation family members still attend the University.

Ellen Condon was a wife and mother, an author and geology teacher. Bean and Condon both died in the 1930s within two months of each other.



Photo courtesy of University Archives
The first class to graduate from the University was composed of only five students. The commencement program shows a picture of Deady Hall, the only building standing on campus.

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